

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CCO-00 PM-04 L-03 NSC-05 SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 EB-07 OPR-02 AF-06 OPIC-03

SCCT-01 SY-05 USSS-00 /062 W
----- 045091

Z O 261730Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 5150

INFO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 7081

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO, MILI, PINS

SUBJECT: PARATROOP MUTINY: SITREP NO. THIRTY TWO

1. ARMA, WHO WAS ON SCENE WHEN SANTAREM ARMOR MOVED INTO BEIROLAS DEPOT AT 2:34 PM (SITREP 31), REPORTS BEIROLAS NOW IN GOVERNMENT HANDS. DISSIDENT TROOPS ON GUARD WITHIN DEPOT HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY LOYALIST TROOPS FROM SANTAREM. AT 3:00 PM APPROXIMATELY 300 LEFTIST CIVILIANS WERE MILLING ABOUT OUTSIDE DEPOT GATES. AT RALIS THERE WAS NO SIGN OF ACTIVITY AS LATE AS 4:00 PM. HOWEVER, WE HAVE SOME INDICATION THAT LEFTIST CIVILIANS ARE MEETING INSIDE UNIT WITH RALIS PERSONNEL. ALL RALIS EQUIPMENT IS INSIDE UNIT AREA OUT OF VIEW. THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 1,000 CIVILIANS, MANY OF THEM SIGHTSEERS, OUTSIDE RALIS GATES. AN OFFICE FROM SANTAREM TOLD ARMA THAT RALIS HAD AGREED TO NOT OPPOSE THE TANKS AT BEIROLAS IF THE ARMORED UNITS WOULD NOT ATTACK RALIS.

2. PPD SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF AT 4:00 PM NOV 26 THAT:

--TWO INFANTRY COMPANIES LEFT TOMOR (3 HOURS FROM LISBON) BETWEEN 2:00 AND 3:00 PM TO REINFORCE GOVERNMENT IN LISBON.

--LCDR CARLOS CONTREIRAS WAS ONLY RC MEMBER NOT AT BELEM

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PALACE EVENING OF NOV 25. PPD BELIEVES HE MAY HAVE JOINED

MUTINEERS.

--PPD WILL ISSUE COMMUNIQUE THIS AFTERNOON BLAMING COMMUNIST PARTY FOR CREATING ALL THE CONDITIONS WHICH LED TO MUTINY, BUT NOT ACCUSING PCP OF DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY FOR MUTINY.

3. OUR CONSUL IN OPORTO REPORTED THAT NORDATLAS AIRCRAFT ARRIVED THERE AT ABOUT 1:00 PM AND OFF-LOADED GROUP OF 36 PRISONERS FROM LISBON. PRISONERS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO CASTOAS MILITARY PRISON IN MATOZINHOS NEAR OPORTO. ALTHOUGH CITY IS NERVOUS, THERE HAVE BEEN NO UNUSUAL TROOP MOVEMENTS.

4. EMBOFF ON SCENE OUTSIDE REBELLIOUS ALMADA FORT ACROSS RIVER FROM LISBON GAVE FOLLOWING SITREP AS OF 5:00 PM:

--FORT IS SURROUNDED BY APPROXIMATELY 300 CIVILIANS WHO ARE THERE TO SUPPORT TROOPS INSIDE.

--TROOPS INSIDE HAVE ANNOUNCED TO CROWD THAT THEY WILL NOT SURRENDER AND THAT THEY WILL RESIST WITH ARMS IF NECESSARY.

--NARROW ACCESS ROADS TO FORT HAVE BEEN BLOCKED BY CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY AND OTHER MATERIALS.

--MARINES ARE ON SCENE BUT HAVE TAKEN NO ACTION YET TO DISPERSE CROWD OR TO DISLODGE THOSE INSIDE FORT. NAVY SOURCES HAVE TOLD NAVATT THAT MARINES' MISSION IS TO DISPERSE CROWD.

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